

This year, the date that museum catalog records are submitted was changed from a calendar to a fiscal year basis. The museum catalog record submission year is now synchronized with the annual Collection Management Reports which are on a fiscal year basis. This change will facilitate more efficient access to information by park, center, regional and WASO staff.

Parks are now required to submit electronic copy to the National Catalog in addition to archival paper records. Both the electronic and paper records are used to analyze the museum catalog records submitted and to initiate the servicewide aggregation of data.

Over 400,000 records were submitted in FY1991, making it the largest submission ever received at the National Catalog. The consistency and quality of museum catalog record submissions received from the parks have increased along with their quantity. The last few years have been a period of growth and change as parks have documented tremendous quantities of objects and specimens through the use of backlog cataloging funding, totalling \$10.5 million from 1988 through 1991.

Changes at the National Catalog will be ongoing as the staff continues to make the transition from the manual cataloging system to a computerized system, and move toward an aggregated servicewide database. The end result will be increased accountability and intellectual access to the collections in the care of the National Park Service. It is a goal well worth the great effort and resources put into the National Catalog program.

Kandace J. Muller is a museum technician at the National Catalog.

Preservation Resources

Publications

Managing Resources

The *Heritage Notes* series provides guidance on a range of topics in historic resource management. Written by the staff of the Historic Sites and Archives Service of Alberta Culture and Multiculturalism and other experts, the series focuses on architectural preservation, heritage planning, collections and facility management. For more information or to order, contact Ema Dominey, Coordinator, Architectural Preservation Services Publication Programme, Old St.

Stephen's College, 8820 112th Street, Edmonton, Alberta Canada T6G 2P8; 403-427-2022.

Visiting Civil War Battlefields

In an effort to help protect Civil War battlefields threatened by overuse, the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA) has released a free brochure, *Visiting Battlefields: The Civil War*, which will serve as an educational outreach component of *The Vanishing Civil War*, a TV program to be nationally broadcast by PBS in early 1993. According to recent National Park Service statistics, nearly 10 million people visit national battlefield and military parks every year. As public interest in the Civil War continues to grow, visitation to the war's battlefields is expected to rise significantly above its past levels.

For a copy of the brochure, write to NPCA/Civil War, Dept. PEC, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036.

Learning About Fortifications

Military Fortifications, A Selective Bibliography, compiled by Dale E. Floyd, historian, Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Staff, National Park Service.

This is the first English-language general bibliography on military fortifications. It deals with the history of fortifications from the earliest times to the present throughout the world. Design, construction, and maintenance of all types of fortifications are noted, from permanent to temporary, from earthworks to fortifications of wood and stone.

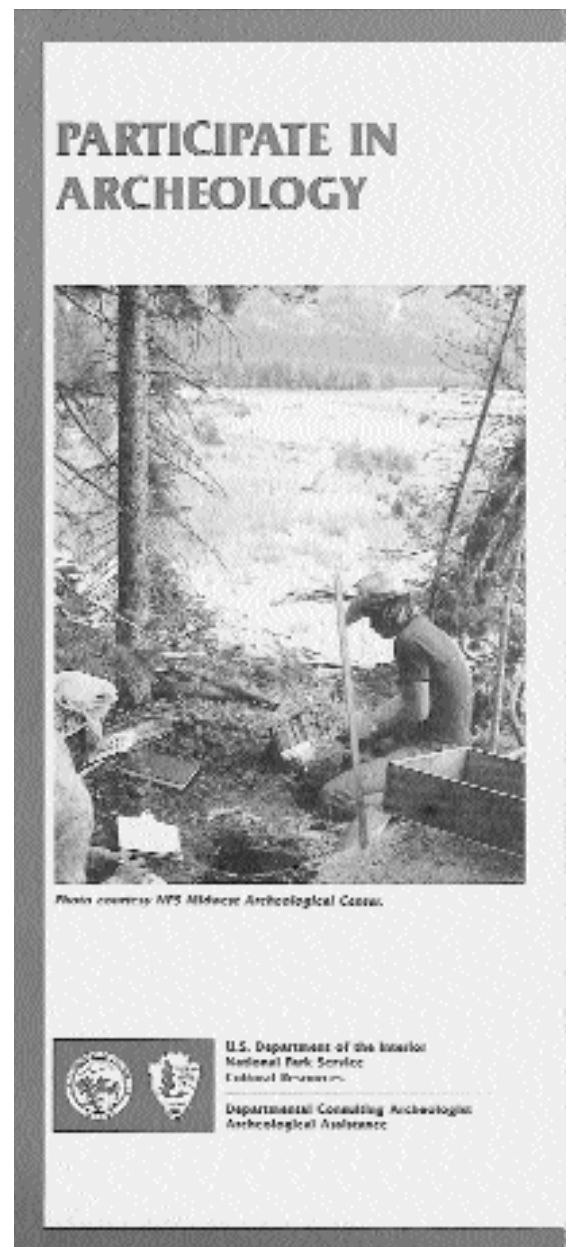
Order from Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, P.O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881; 203-226-3571; Fax: 203-222-1502.

Participating in Archeology

Color photographs of archeological work in progress are an eye-catching feature of a new brochure, *Participate in Archeology*, developed and designed by the Departmental Consulting Archeologist/Archeological Assistance Program of the National Park Service (NPS) in cooperation with the Public Awareness Working Group of senior Federal archeologists.

Intended for distribution to the general public, this brochure explains the importance of archeological sites and details a variety of ways that members of the public can learn more about them and become active in their study and preservation. The brochure was funded by the NPS, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of the Army, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management.

To request copies contact Roger Friedman, National Park Service, Archeological Assistance Division, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; 202-343-1881; fax: 202-523-1547.



Participate in Archeology brochure.

Protecting Archeological Resources

Archeological Resource Protection, by Sherry Hutt, Elwood W. Jones, and Martin E. McAllister, is a guidebook for both the lay person and professional. Written by a judge, an archeologist, and a law enforcement officer, *Archeological Resource Protection* includes an overview of the archeological resource protection problem in the United States; the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, with a detailed discussion of the criminal and civil prosecution provisions of the law; and the process of investigating and prosecuting an archeological crime.

To order, contact the Order Department, The Preservation Press, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036, or call toll-free 1-800-766-6847.

Studying Trade Beads at Fort Union

Beads of the Bison Robe Trade: The Fort Union Trading Post Collection, by Steven Leroy DeVore, describes the results of four seasons of archeological investigations at the Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site in North Dakota and Montana, between 1968 and 1972. Excavations were conducted at the fort in order to obtain structural information for reconstruction. The investigations recovered several varieties of trade beads representing a major artifact assemblage from the mid 19th century.

The report, richly illustrated with charts and color photos, is available from Friends of Fort Union Trading Post, Buford Route, Williston, ND 58801 (recommended retail price is \$14.95).

Learning About Landscapes

America's Landscape Legacy is a new leaflet developed by the Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service, in cooperation with the American Society of Landscape Architects, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the American Battlefield Protection Program. The text answers the questions, "What is a historic landscape?" and "Why preserve historic landscapes?" and lists other sources of information. The attractive design incorporates numerous photos, several in full color. Available from the Preservation Assistance Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

Review

Public and Academic History: A Philosophy and Paradigm by Phyllis K. Leffler and Joseph Brent. Malabar, FL: Robert E. Krieger Publishing Company, 1990.

Reviewed by Patrick W. O'Bannon, Ph.D., principal historian, Kise Franks & Straw, Philadelphia, PA.

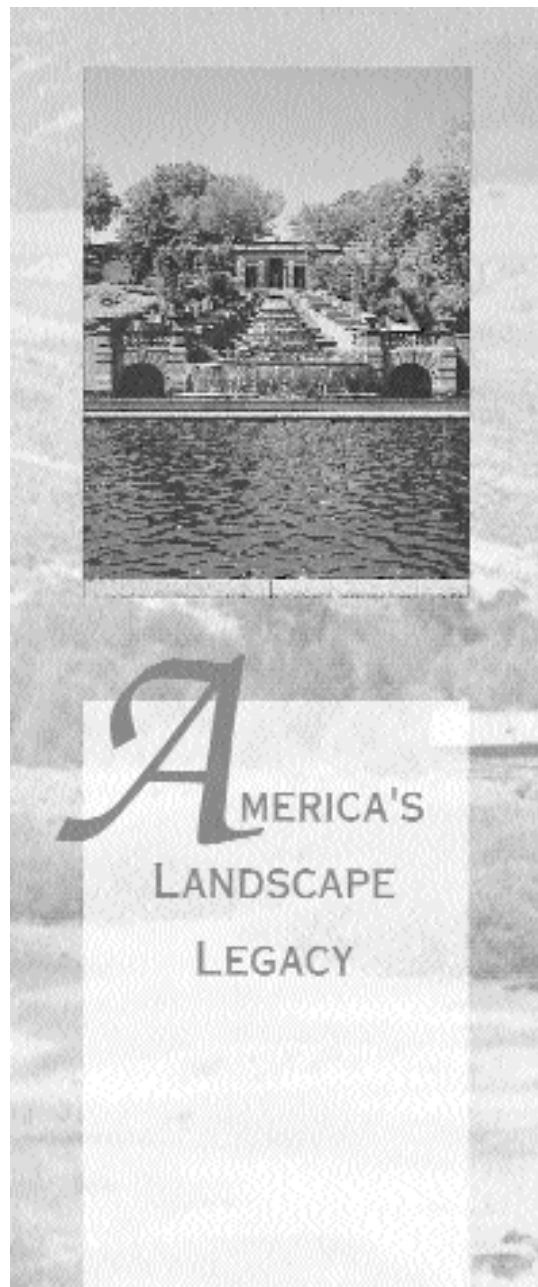
This work, written as a result of the authors' participation in the Institute on Teaching Public History held at Arizona State University during the summer of 1984, examines fundamental questions regarding the nature and relevance of history as a discipline and calls for the reconciliation of academic and public history

by means of their common methodology. Leffler, a historian of France, and Brent, a historian of science, explore the too rarely examined and considered philosophical underpinnings that support the daily activities of public and academic historians. Any historian, or any professional who seeks to understand the nature of historical inquiry, can profit from reading this brief book.

The book is organized into three semi-independent chapters. The first describes the "current crisis" within the historical discipline and explicates the divisions between public and academic historians. The second addresses the argument over the value of scientific versus humane learning and knowledge as it affects the discipline of history. The third develops a model designed to demonstrate that a common method lies behind all human inquiry. This final chapter concludes with a "paradigm" for teaching history based upon the fundamental historical processes of research, analysis, and presentation.

The first chapter presents a familiar chronology of decline. Leffler and Brent reiterate the widely held view that history has lost its synthetic power and its ability to attract a diverse audience. The efforts of academic historians to transform history into a social science, through reliance upon modeling and quantification, are assigned primary responsibility for the discipline's decline. Public history, which is never adequately or fully defined, represents perhaps the best opportunity to breathe new life into the discipline and restore both its wider relevance and audience by forcing historians to refocus upon "central questions which arise from studying the past."

The second chapter provides the deeper historical context for the professional and disciplinary decline outlined in the first chapter. Leffler and Brent trace the development of Newtonian notions of absolute space, time, and measurement, and detail how the widespread acceptance of these views weakened the position of history, which was perceived as subjective and unable to produce universal truths and laws. Leffler and Brent provide a good, brief introduction to the complex and fascinating philosophical interrelationships between science and history. Their account of how Einstein's theory of relativity, quantum mechanics, Heisenberg's uncertainty principle, and chaos theory called into question the Newtonian synthesis and the notion of scientific objectivity, suggests how the past efforts of historians to create a scientific discipline of history based upon imitation of the social sciences are mistaken. The authors find history's "twin foundations" of time and human expe-



America's Landscape Legacy brochure.

rience to be consistent with modern scientific philosophy.

The final chapter continues this exploration of the relationship between scientific and historical knowledge. Leffler and Brent point out that the questions raised by modern scientific theory regarding the notion of scientific objectivity validate history as a discipline. They argue that science's recognition of irreversible time and the prevalence of complexity represents nothing less than a vindication of those traditional historical modes of inquiry that explore issues of complexity, disorder, and change.

Rejecting the notion of historical objectivity, Leffler and Brent offer Fernand Braudel and the Annales school, with their emphasis on incremental change over long periods of time and their use of diverse sources, as a model for historical inquiry. The emphasis upon context currently seen in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places program is perhaps the most familiar example of an Annales school approach found within current cultural resource management practice.

In a somewhat obvious conclusion Leffler and Brent advance a methodology for reuniting public and academic history based upon the commonality of their approach. The authors argue that since contemporary science has rejected the Newtonian notion of objective truth and predictability, that the advocacy inherent in all forms of historical inquiry should no longer be seen as separating public historians from their academic colleagues. And bound together by a common methodological approach that emphasizes research, analysis, and presentation, all historians practice the same discipline and can benefit from increased contact and interaction.

Neither Leffler nor Brent is an American historian, and they neglect much of the rich literature in American historiography that is relevant to their subject. The running debate between objectivists and relativists is one of the enduring characteristics of the American historical profession, and is admirably recounted in considerable detail in Peter Novick's *That Noble Dream: The "Objectivity" Question and the American Historical Profession* (1988), a work not cited by Leffler and Brent. In general, Leffler and Brent's work seems somewhat dated, perhaps a reflection of its 1984 origins. Nevertheless, it offers a brief, lucid view of the philosophy of history and advances a strong case for the discipline's relevance to society as a whole. For this alone the authors are to be applauded, and their work should be required reading for all practicing public historians.

NEDCC Rescues Deteriorating Photographic Negatives

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover, MA, has expanded its photoduplication service and now has the capacity to preserve large collections of photographic materials efficiently. The photoduplication laboratory was renovated and equipped with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and has the capacity to maintain the highest level of quality control in reformatting nitrate and early diacetate negatives onto safety film.

In addition to its reformatting services, NEDCC offers surveys of the preservation needs of photographic collections and conservation services for treatment of photographic prints. Gary Albright, NEDCC's photographic conservator, is one of a handful of professionally trained conservators of photographs in the country. NEDCC invites inquiries and would be glad to work with institutions in planning projects and developing funding requests.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center is a nonprofit regional conservation center specializing in the treatment of paper and related materials including photographs, books, architectural drawings, maps, posters, documents, wallpaper, and art on paper. Its purpose is to provide the highest quality conservation services and to serve as a source for advice and training for institutions that hold paper-based collections. The Center provides consulting services and performs surveys of preservation needs. It also performs paper conservation, book binding, and preservation microfilming as well as duplication of photographic negatives.

For questions regarding the duplication of photographic materials in our collection or to obtain an estimate call Mark Robinson, NEDCC's Director of Reprographic Services, or David Joyall, Technical Photographer, at 508-470-1010; or write to NEDCC at 100 Brickstone Square, Andover, MA 01810.

New Archeology Manual

A new manual is now available titled, *Archeological Resources Protection: Federal Prosecution Sourcebook*. It was prepared jointly by the Archeological Assistance Division of the National Park Service and the General Litigation and Legal Advice Section of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

The sourcebook is aimed at providing assistance and guidance to attorneys when a violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA), the Native American Graves Protection

and Repatriation Act of 1990 (NAGPRA), or the Antiquities Act of 1906, occurs within their agency's jurisdiction. It contains legislative and administrative materials, selected commentary, indictments, legal memoranda, briefs, and other documents used in the investigation and prosecution of ARPA, NAGPRA, and Antiquities Act violations.

Plans for distributing copies are being developed. For more information, contact Debbie Dortch at 202-208-6843, or Richard Waldbauer, 202-343-4101.

Local News

Helping Local Governments

The Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service has prepared two new publications of interest to local preservationists and others. Distributed to State Historic Preservation Officers in November, the publications cover Certified Local Government (CLG) grants and the relationship between subdivision regulations and historic preservation, respectively. The first, *Questions and Answers About CLG Grants from SHPOs: An Introductory Guide*, is an illustrated brochure which describes the basics of what kinds of projects are eligible for CLG Funding, how to apply, and how selections are made. The second publication, *Subdivision Regulation and Historic Preservation*, published as the latest issue in the *Local Preservation* series, introduces subdivision regulation as one of the principal means used by local governments to guide land development. The publication shows how land subdivision affects historic resources and how preservation concerns can be incorporated into subdivision ordinances and the subdivision review process. Both publications are available from SHPOs or from Interagency Resources Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127, or call 202-343-9500.

Mobile's Endangered Properties List: A Useful Preservation Tool

John S. Sledge

The Mobile Historic Development Commission (MHDC) is responsible for the administration of historic preservation programs in Alabama's port city. Its areas of responsibility include design

(Mobile—continued on page 20)